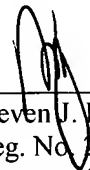




- ☒ 2. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance.
- ☐ a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1).
- ☒ b. I hereby certify that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(2).
- ☒ c. The payment of the fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) of \$180.00 is authorized to be charged in the attached credit card authorization form.
- ☐ 3. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the Issue Fee. Applicant(s) hereby petition(s) that the Information Disclosure Statement be considered. Attached is our check no. \_\_\_\_\_ in the amount of \$180.00 in payment of the petition fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i)(1). Please credit or debit Deposit Account No. \_\_\_\_\_ as needed to ensure consideration of the disclosed information. Two duplicate copies of this paper are attached.
- ☐ a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1).
- ☐ b. I hereby certify that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(2).

Respectfully submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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|---|---|--|--------------------------|
| FORM PTO 449  | US Dept. of Commerce<br>Patent and Trademark Office | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.<br>2771-260 CIP DIV (7482) | SERIAL NO.<br>10/008,980 |
| SUPPLEMENTAL<br>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT<br><br>(use several sheets if necessary) |   | APPLICANT<br><br>BAUM, Thomas H. et al.        |                          |
|   |   | FILING DATE<br>December 6, 2001                | GROUP<br>1762            |
|   |   |  |                          |

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

| EXAMINER<br>INITIAL |    | PATENT<br>NUMBER | ISSUE DATE | NAME               | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE<br>IF APPROPRIATE |
|---------------------|----|------------------|------------|--------------------|-------|----------|-------------------------------|
|                     | BA | 5,874,364        | 02/23/1999 | Nakabayashi et al. |       |          | 03/26/1996                    |
|                     | BB | 6,271,077        | 08/07/2001 | Nakabayashi et al. |       |          | 11/04/1999                    |
|                     |    |                  |            |                    |       |          |                               |
|                     |    |                  |            |                    |       |          |                               |
|                     |    |                  |            |                    |       |          |                               |
|                     |    |                  |            |                    |       |          |                               |
|                     |    |                  |            |                    |       |          |                               |
|                     |    |                  |            |                    |       |          |                               |

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

|  |  | DOCUMENT<br>NUMBER | PUBLICATION<br>DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION |    |
|--|--|--------------------|---------------------|---------|-------|----------|-------------|----|
|  |  |                    |                     |         |       |          | YES         | NO |
|  |  |                    |                     |         |       |          |             |    |
|  |  |                    |                     |         |       |          |             |    |
|  |  |                    |                     |         |       |          |             |    |

**OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Journal-Date, Page Number, Etc.)**

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| EXAMINER | DATE CONSIDERED |
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EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.

\* All the foreign patents and publications that are not written in English language are accompanied by their respective English abstracts, which constitute concise explanation of relevance of the non-English patents and publications that satisfy the requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3)(i), according to MPEP 609 III A(3).